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## TORONTO, AUGUST, 1896

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## Days of Blessing in Washington.

## THE FIFTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

ACH year the great annual Christian Endeavor gatherings seem to be planned with greater care and to be characterized by more helpful and inspiring features. It would be difficult to say how the Convention at Washington could have been improved in any respect, so thorough were the arrangements. Certainly

## sion an earnest spirit of consecration, and very many had opened to them a door into a fuller and richer Christian life. No preceding convention has been marked by so many tokens of the Holy Spirit's presence and power.

Thoughtful provision was made at Washington for participation in the blessings of the Convention by the citizens. For the first time meetings were arranged specially for those outside the membership of the societies. Some of these were educative as to the aims of the movement, and others were purely evangelistic. These meetings were appreciated by the citizens, and from the number who professed conversion at the various

good of our own dear land. Another memorable feature was the meeting of the World's Union, memorable because of the glorious possibilities of service for Christ and the Church suggested by the presence of representatives from other lands-from Mexico, and India, and Persia, and China, and Japan, and Africa. Truly Christian Endeavor is a missionary movement, and more and more the story of its triumphs will come to us from "the regions beyond."

The mass-meeting on behalf of the suffering Armenians was also noteworthy - Certainly no meeting of the series was more cuthusiastic. The sad, sweet face of Miss Kirkorian was in itself



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A GROUP OF CANADIAN DELEGATES AT THEIR HEADQUARTERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.

this latest Convention will take its place as the best that has yet been held.

The showers of rain and the threatening clouds, which were the gloomy attendants of the opening sessions, were somewhat depressing in their influence, it is true; but the buoyant spirit of Christian Endeavor rose superior to all, and the "sunshine" songs rang out as jubilantly as though nothing existed to hinder the enthusiasm.

Unief among the noteworthy features which characterized the Convention we must place its spirituality. The key-note for such a gathering was struck on Wednesday evening, when in twenty-two churches the topic "Deepening the until the close there breathed through every ses-  $\frac{1}{1}$  and more earnestly determined to seek the truest  $\frac{1}{2}$ 

gospel services very many will bless God for the presence in Washington of the Endeavor hosts.

Then there were those splendid citizenship meetings. What noble expressions of patriotism ! And what magnificent responses ! There were born in thousands of hearts an earnest desire to see Christ enthroned in all public affairs and a holy determination to serve Christ better by seeking the country's highest welfare. Who could forget the vast concourse on the east front of the Capitol? The singing of. "Holy, holy, Lord God Almighty," in such a place was wonderfully significant. The delegation from across the northern frontier, because of these gatherings, Spiritual Life," was discussed. From that hour returned to our own borders more intensely loyal

an eloquent plea on behalf of that much persecuted people. The burning indignation that was expressed, the sympathetic tears that flowed, and the generous gifts that were voluntarily bestowed, all told of the depth of the impression that was produced.

But why seek to specialize. Throughout the programme was of exceptional excellence. The quality of the addresses never was higher. An unusual number of eminent speakers were present to help make the Convention a success. If there was one weak meeting among the hundreds that were held we never heard of it. The Friday meetings, with the inspiring topic "Saved to Serve," the Bible studies, the Junior Rally, the Sabbath services — all deserve extended notice.